

REMARKS

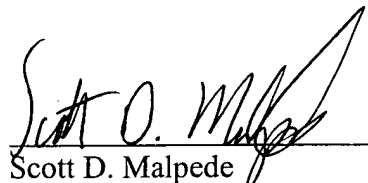
Claims 129, 130, 132-151, 156-176 and 180-186 are allowed, with Claims 129, 133, 156, 158, 181 and 184 being independent.

Minor changes have been made to Claims 129, 133, 156, 158, 181, 182, 184 and 185 to better recite Applicant's claimed invention. These changes are editorial in nature, having been made to correct typographical and grammatical errors, and remove redundant language (Claims 181 and 184). Also, Claim 184 has been amended in line 16 to be consistent with Claim 181. As the changes do not alter the scope of the claims, consideration and entry of the Rule 312 Amendment is respectfully requested.

With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowability, Applicant respectfully wishes to point out that the stated reasons appear to be directed specifically toward Claim 129, as all of the identified steps are not set forth in Applicant's other independent claims, i.e., Claims 133, 156, 158, 181 and 184.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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